

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph from page 20, line 16 to page 21, line 5, with the following:

Japanese Patent ~~Application Laid-Open No. 213946/1997~~ Application No. 213946/1993 (NTT) describes an acoustic echo canceler which uses a double talk detection circuit that decides whether a speech is included in an input voice signal by using time and frequency domain information of source information on the input voice signal (a signal before being echo-canceled) and on an additive noise with a known source. This echo canceler assumes that the echoes getting into the input voice signal are only those influenced by the source signal. It therefore has a drawback of low double talk detection precision when there is ambient noise. Further, it does not have a buffer for holding an impulse response estimated by the adaptive filter (coefficient value of the FIR filter).

Please replace the paragraph at page 46, line 18, with the following:

Regarding the E-CMN method, the applicant of the present invention has already filed a patent application with the Japanese Patent Office (Japanese Patent Application No. ~~09-051578~~ 09-056018, filed on March 11, 1997.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com